

## ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AERONAUTICS BUREAU 1409 COLISEUM BOULEVARD MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36110 PHONE (334) 242-6820 FAX (334) 353-6540



August 27, 2010

Mr. Bruce Hamrick, Chairman Walker County Commission Post Office Box 1447 Jasper, Alabama 35502-1447

Subject: Annual Inspection Report

Walker County-Bevill Field Airport

Dear Mr. Hamrick:

An inspection of the Walker County-Bevill Field Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on August 23, 2010. The purpose of the inspection was to update the information currently on file regarding the airport and to ascertain compliance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation governing licensed public-use airports within the State of Alabama.

Attached you will find a copy of the Annual Inspection Report for the Walker County Airport. As noted in the report, the airport does not meet the requirements for the issuance of an operating license due to obstructions to the approach to Runway 9.

The recent clearing project removed all major obstructions to the airport approaches. The obstructions noted in the report concern obstructions that appear to have been trimmed during the clearing project that have grown back to obstruct the approach to Runway 9. This line of trees and brush should be removed completely or continuously maintained at near ground level to prevent them from becoming a license issue as is now the case. This line of trees and brush has been brought to your attention in previous years.

Please notify this office when the obstructing growth has been removed so that a follow-up inspection can be scheduled and the operating license issued in full effect.

Mr. Bruce Hamrick, Chairman Page 2 of 2

If you should have any questions concerning the inspection or corrective actions, please do not hesitate to contact the Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820.

Sincerely,

John C. Eagerton IV, D.P.A. Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

Copy: Mr. Rans Black FAA/ADO

Mr. David C. Edgil, P.E. County Engineer, Walker County

Mr. Ryan Reed, P.E. Garver Engineers, LLC

## ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT

AUGUST 23, 2010





WALKER COUNTY-BEVILL FIELD AIRPORT

JASPER, ALABAMA

August 23, 2010

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#### Introduction

<u>Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c)</u>. The department may perform such acts, issue and amend such orders and make, promulgate, or amend general or special rules, regulations, and procedures and establish minimum standards, consistent with the provisions of this article as it shall deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article and to perform its duties hereunder, all commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest, health, welfare, and safety. (Act 2000-220, 10.)

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c) an inspection of the Walker County – Bevill Field Airport was conducted by Mr. Robert K. Heartsill of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on August 23, 2010.

The corrective actions that may be prescribed in this inspection report do not relieve the airport owner from compliance with any other Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may be applicable. It is the responsibility of the airport owner to be aware of and obey all Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may have a bearing on the corrective actions that may be specified in this report.

#### Inspection Methodology

The inspection of the required State Approach/Departure Path and Federal Runway Protection Zones was accomplished by the use of approved engineering methods and equipment. The angles, locations and heights of trees or other objects within these areas were derived by the use of a Theodolite and electronic distance measuring device.

All other areas of the inspection were conducted visually and photographed for reference purposes.

The FAA Airport Design Standards referred to in this report were taken from the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) dated January 15, 2007.

#### License Status

**Code of Alabama 23-1-375(a).** ...a person or municipality may not operate an airport, restricted landing area, or other air navigation facility without a license issued by the department.

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Based upon the findings of the inspection conducted on August 23, 2010 it was determined that the airport **does not meet** the requirements for the issuance of an operating license.

The inspection was conducted on the airport under the provisions of the Administrative Code for the following areas:

1. Approach and Departure Paths
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(1)
(See Appendix 1)

#### State Licensing Standards

- → For all hard surface runways the approach and departure path begins 200 feet from the runway end (runway threshold).
- → For all hard surface runways with a displaced threshold, the approach and departure path begins at the point of displacement (See Appendix 3).
- → The approach and departure path for all runways is centered along the extended runway centerline and extends for 1000 feet.
- → The approach and departure path for all runways slopes up at a ratio of 20:1.
- All penetrations of the approach and departure paths, whether natural or manmade, constitute an obstruction to navigation and must be removed.
- The land beneath the approach and departure path must be controlled by the airport owner. This is accomplished by ownership of the property in fee simple or by written perpetual agreement with the owner of the land.

#### Inspection Results

- → Runway 27 meets licensing requirements.
- → The FAA Runway Protection Zone of Runway 27 has been cleared of obstructions.

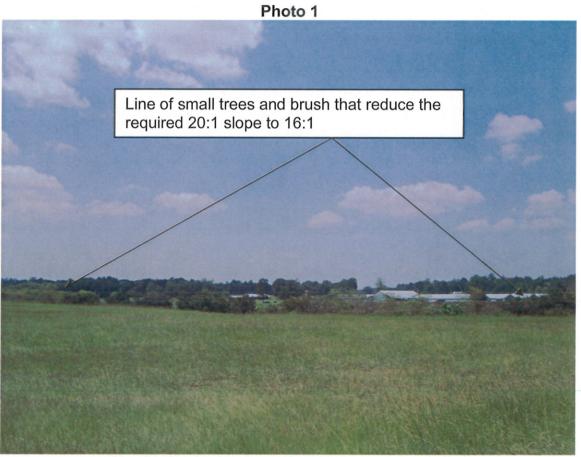
#### **Violation**

#### Runway 9

- Obstructions within the Approach/Departure Path violate the required 20:1 approach slope.
- → Obstructions within the FAA Runway Protection Zone violate the required 20:1 approach slope.
- → The obstructions reduce the approach slope to 16:1.

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→ The obstructions are small trees growing in a line through the north side of the required obstruction-free area. See Appendix 2 for location of this tree line.



Runway 9 – North side of Approach/Departure Path

#### Required Action

→ Remove this line of trees and brush. This line of growth has been noted as an obstruction in several previous reports. The growth has been trimmed in the past and has continued to grow and become a violation.

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Approach to Runway 27. Trees in the distance are at a 36:1 slope from the displaced threshold.

## 2. Primary Surface Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(2)

#### State Licensing Standards

→ Primary Surface (See Appendix 1): The primary surface is 250 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline and extends 200 feet past the end of the marked runway. The primary surface is required to be free of all obstructions, manmade or natural. The only allowable objects are runway lights, guidance signs, or navigation equipment that by function is required to be within the primary surface boundaries.

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#### Inspection Results

- → The primary surface was inspected and meets licensing requirements.
- 3. Runway Safety Area Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(3)

#### State Licensing Standards

→ Runway Safety Area (Appendix 1): All runways are required to maintain an obstruction free area adjacent to each runway. This area is 120 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline, and extends for a distance of 200 feet past the runway end. The area must be compacted and graded smooth with no ruts, humps, depressions or other potentially hazardous surface variations. The slope along the longitudinal centerline shall not exceed a rise or fall of three percent in elevation relative to the runway end elevation. The lip from the top of the pavement to the grade adjacent to the runway should not exceed 3 inches.

#### Inspection Results

- → The Runway Safety Area was found to meet state licensing requirements.
- 4. Airport Markings
  Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(4)

#### State Licensing Standards

Airport Markings: All runways are required to be marked in a manner identifying the boundaries of the landing areas. The runway markings must be painted white and be maintained in a legible condition.

#### Inspection Results

→ The runway markings are in FAIR condition.

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Runway Identifier markings of Runway 9

Photo 4



Runway Identifier markings of Runway 27

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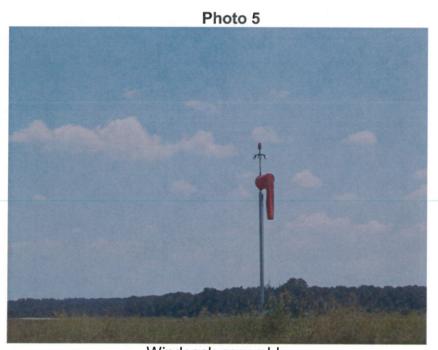
5. Wind Direction Indicator
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(5)

#### State Licensing Standards

Wind Direction Indicators: All airports are required to have an operational wind direction indicator. It must be installed in a highly visible area and free from obstructions to ensure true wind direction and velocity. Night operations require the indicator be lighted.

#### Inspection Results

→ The wind direction indicator (windsock) was inspected and found to meet licensing requirements.



Windsock assembly

6. Airport Lighting Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(6)

#### State Licensing Standards

→ Airport Lighting: Runway lights and a lighted wind direction indicator are required for night operations. A rotating beacon is suggested. All runway,

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threshold, and taxiway lighting shall be maintained in operational condition and shall not be obscured by natural growth such as grass and/or weeds.

#### Inspection Results

> The airport lighting system was inspected and found to be operational.

#### Maintenance Required

→ The runway lighting is obscured by tall grass.



Grass obscuring the threshold lights of Runway 27

#### Required Action

> Keep grass mowed to height that does not obscure the runway lighting.

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## 7. Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(7)

#### State Licensing Standards

Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions: All airport pavement surfaces associated with aircraft operations must be kept smooth and free of any defect or obstruction that could damage an aircraft. The lip of the airport pavement surfaces must not exceed three (3) inches in elevation from the top of the pavement to the shoulder. The drop should only be enough to allow sufficient drainage and not pose a control problem for aircraft exiting the runway. The aircraft parking apron is for the operation and parking of aircraft only and should be smooth and free of obstructions or defects that could cause damage to aircraft during operations.

#### Inspection Results

- → The grass along the runway has obscured the runway lighting. See Section 6 "Airport Lighting".
- 8. Fueling Area Requirements
  Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(8)

#### State Licensing Standards

- → Signs should be posted prohibiting open flames or smoking in fueling areas. The fueling facility must be labeled indicating the type fuel being dispensed.
- → Grounding cables must be available.
- → A fire extinguisher approved for the purpose of extinguishing petroleum product fires available during all fueling operations.
- → Serviceable hoses and connections that would preclude a rupture or leaking of fuel.

#### Inspection Results

→ The fueling area meets the requirements established by the Alabama Department of Transportation. However, the State of Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries may have additional requirements for fueling systems that were not considered during this inspection.

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Photo 8



Fueling Areas

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9. Prohibited Activities
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.16

#### State Licensing Standards

Prohibited Activities: The use of any portion of the aircraft operations area, or airport property within the boundaries of the imaginary surfaces of a licensed airport for any purpose other than the operation of aircraft shall be deemed a non-aeronautical activity and is prohibited.

#### Inspection Results

→ No prohibited activities were observed during the inspection.

#### **Summary**

The table below summarizes items noted in this report.

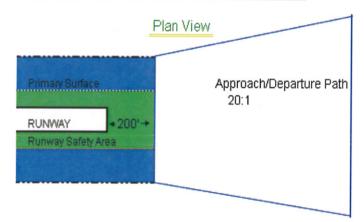
#### **INSPECTION SUMMARY**

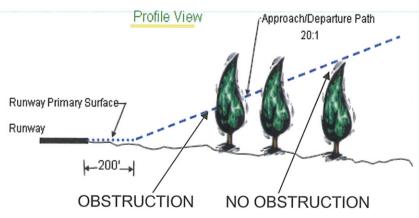
Inspection Area	Violation/Maintenance	Corrective Action
Approach/Departure Path	Violation Runway 9	Remove obstructions from ALDOT Approach/Departure Path and the FAA RPZ
Airport Lighting	Maintenance	Cut grass
Runway , Taxiway and Apron Conditions	Maintenance	Cut grass

Please contact the Aeronautics Bureau of the Alabama Department of Transportation at (334) 242-6820 with questions concerning the Annual Inspection Report.

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Approach and Departure Path Dimensions				
Inner	Outer			
Width	Width	Length	Acreage	
250 Feet	450 Feet	1,000 Feet	8.04 Acres	
Primary Surface Dimensions				
250 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline				
Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End				
Runway Safety Area Dimensions				
120 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline				
Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End				



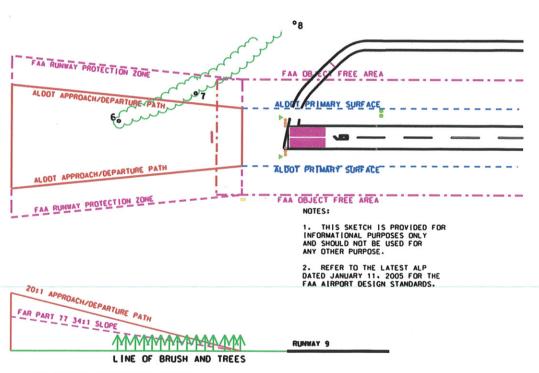


**APPENDIX 1** 

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# WALKER COUNTY - BEVILL FIELD AIRPORT AUGUST 23, 2010

#### RUNWAY 9 PLAN AND PROFILE



VIOLATIONS OF THE 20:1 SLOPE

1. +12 TO +14 FOOT LINE OF BRUSH AND TREES
FROM THE RUNWAY END TO 735 FEET FROM THE RUNWAY END
SOO FEET FROM CENTERLINE TO 68 FEET FROM CENTERLINE
16:1 SLOPE